

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A valve pin actuator is disclosed that includes a cylinder mounted to the clamping plate, a piston slidably mounted in the cylinder, and a valve pin assembly carried by the piston. A

- 5 hydraulic or pneumatic circuit is provided for controlling the movement of the piston, and in turn translation of the valve pin between the seated and unseated positions. The valve pin assembly includes a first part removably secured to the piston so as to translate therewith, and a second part for receiving the valve pin and secured to said manifold. The actuator assembly enables removal of the clamping plate without removal of the valve pin assembly, and also adjusting of
- 10 the valve pin without removal of the clamping plate. The assembly further provides a clearance between the piston and valve pin assembly, to accommodate expansion and movement of the manifold that would otherwise cause a side load to be exerted on the valve pin.

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